

Remarks

Claims 6-12, 18, 19, and 21-27 are pending. If this amendment is entered, claims 6-12, 18, 19, and 21-24 would be cancelled without prejudice. Claims 28-36 would be added. Therefore, claims 25-36 would be pending.

Applicants thank the examiner for indicating the allowability of claims 26 and 27 if written to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, and include all of the limitations of the base claim. However, it appears that claim 25 would also be allowable if written to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, and include all of the limitations of the base claim, as no other rejection of claim 25 appears in the Office action. Applicants request that the Examiner confirm this understanding.

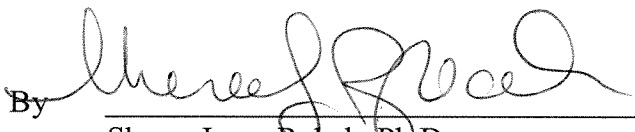
In order to expedite prosecution, claims 6-12, 18, 19, and 21-24 are cancelled without prejudice, and claims 25-27 are amended to address the 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph rejections and to include the language of claim 6. Claim 27 was also amended to include a period at the end. Dependent claims 28-36 are added, but do not require any additional search, as they merely recite one of the particular elements listed in the base claim.

Because this amendment places the application in condition for allowance, Applicants request that it be entered, and a Notice of Allowance be issued. If there are any questions regarding this amendment, the examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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